GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3369
ANSWERED ON:16.04.2008
CGHS FACILITY TO PIB ACCREDITED JOURNALISTS
Satpathy Shri Tathagata

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has discontinued the CGHS facility extended to the PIB accredited journalists and their families since 2007;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether representations from the journalists have been received by the Government in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE(SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) to (d) No Sir. However, CGHS facilities have been extended to PIB accredited Journalists on 'recovery of cost' basis. The cost to be recovered has been enhanced for the last few years and the journalists are reluctant to pay the arrears at the enhanced rates.Representations have been received from journalists. However, it is difficult for the Government to reduce the cost payable by the journalists while continuing to charge other similarly situated categories of beneficiaries at the enhanced rates.